

# Church

## PASTOR SANDY BLAKE IS WIDELY TRAVELED

By Louise H. Jordan,  
SENTINEL Church Reporter

Sandy Blake is the founder of Love Center Unlimited and has pastored it since its inception in 1977.

She was born on December 2, 1942, to Rev. & Rev. P.H. Porter. Both parents were preachers in

the Church of God in Christ affiliation. Her grandmother founded the first C.O.G.I.C. in Enid, Oklahoma, Sandy's birthplace.

It may have been quite unusual in 1942 to have a preacher for a mother, but not as unusual as having four brothers, five sisters and herself all in the preaching business. Most are pastors,

some remain in the C.O.G.I.C. and some are in Independent Ministries; but all are still striving for the



Pastor Sandy Blake

same goal, to lead the unsaved to Christ. Pastor Blake believes that each must follow the personal directions given to them by

God.

Growing up from as far back as she can recall, church was basically her life. She remembers the excitement and emotions

ghost by age 10. Of course they were skeptical but it happened.

When Sandy married her ex-husband, she was stationed with him in Tyler,

called Triple C. School. The Bishop licensed her as an evangelist in 1968.

Duty called young Sandy to fulfill her education, so she enrolled at UNLV and



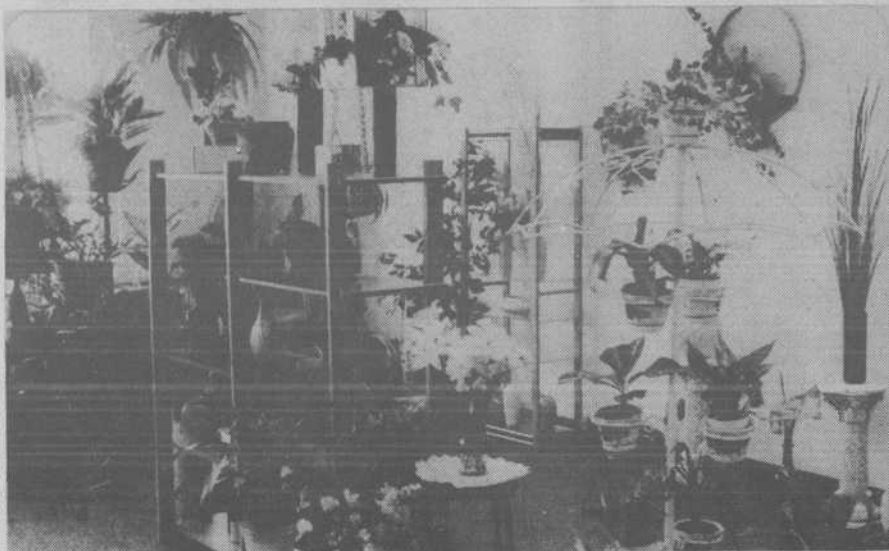
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generated in her church and how the music and testimonies excited her. At age 5 years, she reminisced that her grandmother took her to church. She had never seen a woman preach until that night. When the pastor announced that her grandmother Nettie Boyd would be bringing the message she was astounded. It was so moving she knew that night she would one day be a preacher. She therefore told her sisters and brothers that she would be baptized with the Holy

Texas where she began a small ministry in her home along with several other evangelists. It was basically a home prayer group that blossomed into a full-fledged church. Later, she established a similar ministry in Germany.

In 1968, Pastor Blake came to Las Vegas to Nellis Air Force Base with her husband. She began fellowshiping with the Upper Room C.O.G.I.C. under the late Bishop C.C. Cox. She began to study under him in what was then

completed a four year program with a double major — political science and communications in 2½ years. She also became the first Black student to be inducted into the National Honor Society from UNLV in 1973.

Pastor Blake's work history was with various local government bodies and television channels 3 and 8. Her position of Deputy Director of Human Resources for this area was important to many. She also served as Legislative Aide in 1973.

Under God's direction, but not without many stumbling blocks, she left her first denomination and began serving at another church. It was not because of non-belief but because of divine instructions. From there the Lord spoke to her and told her to "establish a center of Love and bring my people back to me." The result is Love Center Unlimited, 5400 E. Carey, Las Vegas.

### Announcements

Churches are urged to send their services and program announcements, typewritten, to the Las Vegas Sentinel Church Reporter Louise Jordan, c/o Lil Angel Pre-School Plus, 1230 W. Adams, Las Vegas, NV. 89106, or to her in care of The Las Vegas Sentinel-Voice, 1201 S. Eastern Ave., Las Vegas, NV. 89104. Articles must be mailed or delivered to the above locations no later than Monday noon of each week.



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